

25, 1903, the writer proposed the name *Aspiliopsis* for the plant described in the body of the same contribution, p. 106, as *Altamirania*, n. gen. of Verbesineae (Compositae). Professor Theo. D. A. Cockerell, of Colorado Springs, has most courteously called my attention to the fact that no binomial was given under *Aspiliopsis*. This may be formed as follows: ***Aspiliopsis pachyphylla***, n. comb. *Altamirania pachyphylla* Greenm. Proc. Am. Acad. 39: 106. 1903.—J. M. GREENMAN, *Gray Herbarium, Cambridge, Mass.*

VITALITY OF SEEDS.

THE statement in the GAZETTE for February by J. W. T. Duvel concerning the preservation of seeds buried in the soil reminds me of some tests I made years ago, reporting the results in the *Proceedings* of the Society for the Promotion of Agricultural Science for 1894. In September 1882 I gathered and shelled 50 heads of red clover from each of five plants, and kept them in two-ounce bottles, each lot by itself. On June 7, 1894, I tested 50 seeds of each for vitality, and again on June 23, 1894, I tested another set of 50 seeds each. The average of the two lots of all seeds was 35.8 per cent. of living seeds. Of the hundred taken from one of the bottles 66 seeds germinated; while of those from another bottle only 4 seeds out of the hundred germinated. In these cases some of the seeds of each lot retained vitality for nearly twelve years.

In the *Proceedings* of the same society for 1899, I reported the results of tests of the vitality of seeds of weeds buried by me in "clean" dirt in bottles for twenty years. The seeds germinated very unevenly. I name the species of seeds of which some germinated: *Amaranthus retroflexus*, *Brassica nigra*, *Capsella Bursa-pastoris*, *Lepidium virginicum*, *Anthemis cotula*, *Malva rotundifolia*, *Oenothera biennis*, *Polygonum hydropiper*, *Portulaca oleracea*, *Rumex crispus*, *Stellaria media*, *Verbascum thapsus*. None of the following germinated: *Ambrosia artemisiaefolia*, *Erechthites hieracifolia*, *Euphorbia maculata*, *Plantago major*, *Setaria glauca*, *Trifolium repens*, *Bromus secalinus*, *Lychnis githago*. I give the names of seeds by which they were known when buried; at the time of their resurrection the names of some of them had been changed!—W. J. BEAL, *Agricultural College, Michigan.*